

If you know an older person who is being harmed in any way, call us.

We can help.

Senior HelpLine:

1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY)

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday

After office hours, weekends and holidays:

1-800-279-0400

www.state.il.us/aging

Out-of-state:

Eldercare Locator: 1-800-677-1116

www.eldercare.gov

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY.)

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State of Illinois
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor

Illinois Department on Aging
Charles D. Johnson, Director



**Older people
deserve honor
and respect...
not abuse.**



Illinois Department
 **on Aging**

Older people deserve honor and respect... not abuse.

Old age is a time to treasure. But for some older people, it is a time for tears. No one talks much about elder abuse. It is kept hidden behind drawn curtains and shuttered windows. But like other forms of abuse, elder abuse happens in all communities, among all races and all nationalities.



What is elder abuse?

Elder abuse occurs when someone takes the money needed by an older person to live.

Elder abuse occurs when a caregiver fails to provide an older person with adequate food, water or medical care.

Elder abuse is violence, theft, neglect. And elder abuse will happen again and again in our communities unless caring people do something to make it stop. Most of us have older family members and know older adults who live in our communities.

There are many ways you can show older people honor and respect.

Do...

- ▶ **Visit regularly.**
- ▶ **Keep track of medicines and doctors' visits.**
- ▶ **Help financially, if necessary.**
- ▶ **Honor their trust.**
- ▶ **Respect their feelings.**
- ▶ **Provide adequate care.**

Don't...

- ▶ **Treat them like children.**
- ▶ **Strike, hit or push.**
- ▶ **“Borrow” their money.**
- ▶ **Speak to them harshly.**